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## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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### INTRODUCTION

The UT System has published a comprehensive annual accountability and performance report for the past five years. The publication in August 2006 of a new ten-year strategic plan for the UT System and the presence of more robust accountability data sets at the System and at the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board (THECB) have made it possible for the UT System to streamline this report and align it more clearly with the System's strategic themes and goals.

This revised report features:

- "At-a-glance" views of trends for the System's 72 key accountability indicators that emphasize outcomes aligned with System priorities in its new strategic plan.
- Analysis of critical topics exploring correlations among indicators on such topics as: affordability, student outcomes, progress toward diversity, R&D funding, and national rankings.
- In-depth, institution-specific accountability profiles with analysis of trends in comparison with institution goals and with peer institutions.

This framework is based on a robust unit-record set of data, which supports the UT System Facts & Trends report, together with state-wide data sets collected by the THECB, that have been used to create the higher-level analyses and correlations in this report. In most cases, official state or federal data sets are used to assure consistency and comparability, as appropriate.

The report is one among a series of annual reports to the Board on special accountability topics, such as research and technology transfer, development, and endowments (a full schedule is available at: <http://www.utsystem.edu/osm/progress.htm>).

The report covers:

- I. System trends, providing at-a-glance tables and charts illustrating trends for the 72 core strategic indicators.
  - For the System as a whole – discussion of rankings.
- II. Institution-specific accountability profiles, focusing on the
  - Unique mission statement of each campus, its priorities, and key points of distinction;
  - Analysis of campus-specific data trends and relationships among initiatives, investments, and results in the context of the institution's mission, demographic and economic context, and other unique characteristics of the campus;
  - Tables and graphs on campus-relevant metrics and trends; and
  - Peer comparisons (based on campus-specific peer lists), as well as other national trends or examples.

A brief overview of System trends is published in *Fast Facts* ([www.utsystem.edu/news/FastFacts.htm](http://www.utsystem.edu/news/FastFacts.htm)). For detailed information, refer to the *Facts & Trends* report (<http://www.utsystem.edu/isp/factstrends.htm>). For additional information about the UT System's accountability efforts, visit the Web site at [www.utsystem.edu/osm/accountability](http://www.utsystem.edu/osm/accountability).

We welcome responses to this new framework; contact the Office of Strategic Management (512 499 4798, or [pbales@utsystem.edu](mailto:pbales@utsystem.edu)) or Institutional Studies and Policy Analysis (512 499 4473, or [tnorman@utsystem.edu](mailto:tnorman@utsystem.edu)).

## 2008-09 ACCOUNTABILITY TRENDS HIGHLIGHTS

### STUDENT ACCESS, SUCCESS, AND OUTCOMES

#### Preparation and Cost of Attendance

- Entering students are better prepared for college. Between 2004 and 2008, the average SAT and GRE scores of entering students increased on six UT System campuses. At UT Austin, UT Dallas and UT San Antonio, average SAT, GRE, and GMAT scores all increased over this period.
- Attending college remains affordable due to increases in financial aid. In 2008, UT System institutions made 284,206 financial aid awards totaling \$990.8 million, significantly above the 225,874 awards totaling \$741.4 million in 2004.
- Controlling cost of attendance. The average net academic cost for full-time students receiving need-based aid was \$1,713 in 2007-08 at UT System academic institutions. The average discount on the academic cost for students receiving need-based aid was 75.8% in 2007-08. The average discount for all students also increased, was 37%.

#### Enrollment

- Substantial enrollment growth. From 2004 to 2008, the UT System has continued to fulfill its *Closing the Gaps* goals through moderate increases in enrollments. Total enrollment increased by 6.8%, from 182,752 to 195,107. The UT System served 33.9% of the state's students enrolled in academic institutions and 67.2% among all health-related institutions.
- Increasing diversity. UT System students have become increasingly diverse. In 2008, the proportion of White and Hispanic students was nearly equal (37.8% and 38.5%). In 2007, 42% of first-time students were Hispanic, exceeding the 35.8% in the state's graduating high school class. The proportion of African-American students was less than the 13.3% among most recent high school graduates, increasing slightly from 4.3% to 6.1% over the past five years.

#### Student Outcomes

- Persistence. From 2003 to 2007, first-year persistence rates increased on five campuses. Four-year graduation rates also increased on five campuses. At UT Austin, over half (50.5%) of students entering in 2003, graduated in four years, compared to 41.3% of students entering in 1999.
- Six-year graduation rates. This key indicator increased on five campuses, UT Austin, UT El Paso, UT Pan American, UT Permian Basin and UT San Antonio.
- More students persisting and graduating. The combined proportion of students who graduated from or were still enrolled at a UT institution or another institution in Texas within six years also increased significantly on six campuses to between 55% and 65%, reaching almost 79% at UT Dallas and 86% at UT Austin.
- Outcomes of community college transfers. The graduation rate of community college transfer students also increased at the majority of UT System academic institutions. At UT Pan American, it grew by over eleven points to 61.2%.
- More degrees awarded. As a result of earlier enrollment increases and increases in the graduation rates, the number of degrees institutions award is also growing. Over the past five years, the number of baccalaureate degrees awarded increased faster than total undergraduate enrollments. While undergraduate enrollment grew by 11.3% at academic institutions, the number of degrees awarded increased by 15.9%, to 26,033; 34% of the state total. At health institutions, undergraduate enrollment increased 13.5%, and the number of degrees conferred increased by 22.9%, to 982; 65.9% of the state total.

- Diverse graduates. The diversity of degree-holders also increased. For example, over the past five years, the proportion of baccalaureate and professional degrees awarded at academic institutions to Hispanic students increased by 5.1 and 6.3 points, respectively. UT Austin ranked first nationally in law degrees awarded to Hispanic students; UT El Paso ranked first in engineering doctorates to Hispanic students; UT San Antonio ranked first for baccalaureate degrees awarded to Hispanic students in biological and biomedical sciences and UT Pan American ranked first for baccalaureate degrees awarded to Hispanic students in math.
- Preparation for careers is increasing. Students' knowledge of their fields is assessed through certification, licensure, and national board examinations. These exam pass rates for students at UT System institutions were 90% or more in teaching, pharmacy, dentistry and medicine. The pass rate in 2007 was 100% at: UT Tyler in engineering, UT Austin and UT Dallas in teaching, UT Health Science Center-Houston in health professions, UT Medical Branch in nursing, and UT Health Science Center-Houston and UT Health Science Center-San Antonio in advance practice nursing.
- Measures of student learning on par or better than national averages. Results of the Collegiate Learning Assessment in 2007-08 show that seniors obtained higher CLA total scores, on average, than freshmen at all eight campuses who participated. The absolute level of freshman and senior performance at UT Austin, UT Dallas and UT San Antonio exceeded the national averages, while freshmen at UT Arlington also scored higher than national averages. Freshmen at UT El Paso and UT San Antonio scored well above expected in performance and writing tasks, while UT Austin, UT Dallas, and UT Permian Basin freshmen scored above expected levels in writing. Seniors at UT El Paso and UT San Antonio scored well above expected on analytic writing. Seniors at UT Pan American scored above expected on the performance and writing task, and UT El Paso and UT San Antonio seniors scored above expected on the performance task.
- Students are satisfied with their college experience. Results of the National Survey of Student Engagement show that on seven campuses, almost 80% of senior respondents said they were satisfied with their educational experience. On six campuses, more freshmen rated academic advising good or excellent in 2008 than in 2004, as did seniors at seven institutions. More freshmen, on five campuses and seniors on six campuses said they would be likely to attend again, in 2008 compared with 2004.
- Medical students are generally satisfied with the quality of their education. Almost 90% or higher of students at UT System medical schools reported satisfaction with the quality of their medical education in 2008.
- Graduates are prepared for careers and advanced degrees. In 2007, well over 80% of baccalaureate graduates at most UT System institutions were employed or attending a graduate or professional school in Texas.

## FACULTY AND INSTRUCTION

- Investments in faculty result in increased productivity. From 2004 to 2008, the number of tenure and tenure-track faculty at UT System institutions increased 6.8%, to 7,597. These increases contributed to higher institutional productivity as enrollment grew by 6.8%, the number of degrees awarded increased by 14.6%, and research expenditures increased by 40.7%. At the same time, the proportion of low-enrollment classes decreased from 6.1% to 4.7% of all classes.
- With the increase in faculty, student/faculty ratios decreased at six academic institutions. From fall 2004 to 2008, student faculty ratios decreased at UT Arlington (from 21:1 to 19:1), UT Austin (from 19:1 to 18:1), UT Brownsville (from 18:1 to 16:1), UT Dallas (from 21:1 to 19:1), UT Permian Basin (from 18:1 to 17:1) and UT San Antonio (from 26:1 to 24:1). A smaller proportion of lower division semester hours, ranging from 25.1% to the highest at UT Permian Basin, 47%, were provided by tenure and tenure-track faculty in 2008 compared with 2004.
- Distance education enrollments and degrees are increasing. From 2004 to 2008, the number of students enrolled in at least one course in the UT TeleCampus increased by 50.1%, to 9,566. And, UT TeleCampus graduate course completion rates have remained over 90% for the past five years.

## RESEARCH

- Research competitiveness and productivity increased. From 2004 to 2008, as competition for research funding increased nationally, total research expenditures at the UT System increased by 40.7%, from \$1.5 billion to \$2.2 billion. Most of these funds, \$1.2 billion, come from federal sources. The health institutions generated approximately two-thirds of these expenditures, but the academic institutions increased by a proportionately larger amount in total (52.8%) and federal (43.4%) expenditures.
- Successful competition for federal funding. The rate of increase in federal funding exceeded 50% at UT Arlington, UT Brownsville, UT Pan American, UT San Antonio, and UT Tyler. Additionally, the proportion of tenure/tenure track faculty holding grants increased at seven academic institutions and three health institutions. UT Austin, UT Southwestern Medical Center, and UT M. D. Anderson remain among the top-ranked institutions nationally in federal research funding.
- Honors reflect the quality, impact, and prestige of faculty. In 2007-08, individual UT System faculty won prestigious awards from the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, American Academy of Nursing, National Academy of Engineering, the Guggenheim Foundation, National Academy of Sciences, Institute of Medicine, and more. Cumulatively, UT System faculty hold 7 Nobel Prizes, 35 members of the National Academy of Sciences, 50 members of the American Academy of Nursing, 53 members of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, 50 members of the National Academy of Engineering, and 36 members of the Institute of Medicine. UT Austin, UT Southwestern Medical Center, UT Health Science Center-Houston, and UT Health Science Center-San Antonio hold the largest number of these awards.
- Transferring research discoveries to the marketplace. From 2004 to 2008, the number of new invention disclosures by UT System institutions increased by 44.9%, to 716 and U.S. patents decreased by 17.5% to 99, 61 of those went to health institutions. The UT System as a whole ranks fifth nationally in patent awards to universities. Gross revenue from intellectual property also increased, by 25.5% to \$37.2 million. And, UT System institutions have received a total of \$95 million in Texas Emerging Technology Funds, 67% of the total state awards.

## HEALTH CARE

- Training future health professionals. In 2008, UT System academic and health institutions awarded 2,782 undergraduate and 2,702 graduate/professional health-related certificates and degrees. Among these 2,116 were undergraduate and graduate degrees in nursing. Altogether, UT System health institutions awarded nearly two-thirds of all health-related degrees from public institutions in Texas.
- Increasing diversity in health professions. Three UT System health institutions are in the top five nationally in undergraduate degrees, and four are in the top 20 of master's degrees awarded to Hispanic students.
- Improving health in Texas. In 2007, UT System health faculty were responsible for 5.3 million outpatient visits and 1.4 million hospital days. Health care provided to the uninsured and underinsured totaled \$1.3 billion, an increase of 19% from 2003. Total patient care revenue at UT System health institutions increased from \$1.93 billion to \$3.38 billion over the past five years.
- Patients' satisfaction with health services. Patient satisfaction ratings ranged from 82% to 99% in 2008. For example, 92% of UT M. D. Anderson patients said they would recommend the hospital to others for cancer care. Ninety-nine percent of UT Health Science Center-Houston's UT Physicians/Medical School patients expressed satisfaction with their overall treatment. At the UT Health Science Center-San Antonio School of Medicine, 94% of patients would recommend the clinics to others. And, at UT Health Science Center-Tyler, emergency room satisfaction increased 1.4 points, to 90.5% from 2007 to 2008.

## OPERATIONS EFFICIENCY AND PRODUCTIVITY

### Revenues and Expenditures

- The balance in key sources of revenue is shifting to the institution and the student. In 2004, UT System revenues totaled \$9.1 billion; in 2008, revenues increased by 33% to \$12.1 billion – over 33% from hospital and physician fees, 20% from grants and contracts, 16% from state-appropriated general revenue, and 8% from tuition and fees. Between 2003 and 2008, in inflation-adjusted dollars, average general revenue per student decreased by less than 1%, from \$5,310 to \$5,260, still below the benchmark of \$5,850 in 2002. To cover necessary costs, average tuition and fees per FTE student increased over this period, from \$3,660 to \$5,150 in inflation-adjusted dollars.
- Expenditures focus on health care, instruction, student services, and research. About 26% of the UT System's total \$11.2 billion in expenses in FY 2008 was designated for instruction, scholarships and fellowships, and student services, 26% for health care, and 15% for research.
- Administrative efficiency increased. Between 2004 and 2008, the portion of total institutional expenses devoted to administrative costs decreased to just over 6%, decreasing at six academic institutions, and four health institutions. The average for academic institutions decreased from 7.6% to 7.0%, and from 6.7% to 5.7% for health institutions.
- Strong growth and stewardship of endowments. The value of the UT System endowments – an important resource for investments in quality – increased 48.4%, to \$16.1 billion from 2004 to 2008. Per FTE student, the value of endowments increased over this period to \$71,272, and per FTE faculty to \$769,196. The proportion of faculty positions supported by endowments grew at ten campuses. At UT Austin, UT Medical Branch, and UT Health Science Center-Houston, over 30% of total budgeted tenure/tenure-track faculty positions were endowed; at UT Southwestern Medical Center, over 80% of budgeted tenure/tenure track positions were endowed.
- Private donor support is increasing. From 2004 to 2008, total donor support increased by over 23%, to \$801.4 million. Over this period, contributions increased by more than 100% at UT Permian Basin and UT Health Science Center-San Antonio. In 2007, if the UT System is taken as a whole, total voluntary support was \$760.9 million, second highest in the nation, although no single UT System institution is ranked in the top 20 in voluntary support.

### Efficiency and Productivity

- Contributions to state economic goals increase. Participation in the state's Historically Underutilized Business program contributes to the state's economic goals. Between 2004 and 2008, total HUB expenditures increased from \$331.1 million to \$452.3 million, and exceeded goals in two of six expenditure categories. Over this period, HUB expenditures increased by an average of 87.5% on academic campuses and by 63.2% at health institutions.
- Reducing energy use. Between 2003 and 2007, eight UT System institutions reduced energy use. Overall, energy use was lowest in 2004 (approximately 200,000 btu/sq ft/yr), but increased to slightly over 200,000 btu/sq ft/yr in the past three years.
- Efficiency in utilization of classroom space. From 2004 to 2008, six academic institutions increased the average weekly hours during which classroom space is used. Eight campuses exceeded the state-wide average of 31.7 hours/week. Four campuses increased the average weekly hours of use of class laboratories, and seven exceed the state-wide average of 22.9 hours/week.
- Productivity of space usage. Between 2004 and 2008, capital investments resulted in increases in research space throughout the System while research expenditures also increased. As a result, from 2004 to 2008, the ratio of research expenditures to research space also increased at twelve UT System institutions. At six health institutions and seven academic institutions, this ratio was over \$200 per square foot of research space.

